24th February 1930]

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the Madras Quarterly Civil List and to the District Establishment lists which are available in the Council library.

(*b*) & (*c*) *Anantapur district.*—An Ediga, who is a permanent Tahsildar, is acting as District Labour Officer.

East Godavari district.—A member of the 'Gamalla' caste (which is said to be akin to the Ediga caste) is a Stationary Sub-Magistrate in this district.

West Godavari district.—An Ediga is acting as Revenue Inspector in this district.

Bellary district.—A member of the 'Kalal' community (which is said to be akin to the Ediga caste) is a probationary Revenue Inspector in this district.

Education

Reorganization of the Oriental Manuscripts Library.

1486 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the scheme of reorganization sanctioned in G.O Mis. No. 494, Law (Education), dated 2nd April 1927, for the Oriental Manuscripts Library has fully been carried out; and, if not, in what respects it has not yet been carried out and why; and

(*b*) whether only about half of the manuscripts as were dusted and oiled in the previous triennium were dusted and oiled in the triennium ending 1927-28 and, if so, why; and the arrangements, if any, since made to rectify the shortage?

A.—(*a*) No; the librarian has not yet been replaced by an Honours graduate as it has not been possible to find a suitable place for him elsewhere.

(*b*) Two hundred and six manuscripts were dusted and oiled in the triennium ending 1927–28 as compared with 377 so treated in the previous triennium. The difference is due to the fact that there was a reduction in the menial establishment towards the end of 1926. The arrangements to be made for the work are under consideration.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Elections

Introduction of the Bombay system of voting by symbols in elections.

* 1487 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: With reference to the answers to supplemental questions arising out of the answer to question No. 87, dated the 7th August 1929, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have since obtained details about the Bombay system of voting by symbols and to ascertain whether the Mysore Government also has adopted the use of symbols for voting; and if so, with what results; and

(*b*) whether the same system will be introduced in Madras also?

[24th February 1930

A.—(*a*) The Government have since obtained information from the Government of Bombay regarding the system of voting by symbols in vogue there. They have not ascertained whether the Mysore Government have adopted any symbols for voting.

(*b*) The Government have considered the question and have decided that no change is needed in the existing regulation No. 24 (1) of the Regulations for the conduct of elections relating to the marking of the votes of illiterate voters.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know, Sir, what the nature of the information which the Government have?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Government of Bombay stated that the system was not free from defects."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have any information about the comparative efficiency of the systems in vogue in Bombay and Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Government of Bombay have said that the system was not an ideal one"

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know whether the Bombay Government adopted the Madras system for a while and then gave it up and adopted the new system?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Government have no information."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I enquire whether the Government have compared the two systems and found the Madras system more efficient?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"As far as we are able to see, the Madras system is efficient."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"What are the defects of the Bombay system which the Government have in mind?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I have stated what the Bombay Government have said."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"May I know whether the Government have compared the two systems themselves or are guided by the opinion of the Bombay Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Government have considered the question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"What are the defects of the Bombay system?'

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"We will have to get the information from Bombay."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"The hon. Member just now said that the Government have considered the question. By that, I understood that the Government have compared the two systems. If they have, what are the defects they have found which makes the Bombay system worse than the Madras system?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"It is not necessary to go into details. The Bombay Government have said that the system is not an ideal one."